(a) whether the Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) has set up its branches in different parts of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which these branches have been able to solve the housing problems in Kerala State; and

(d) the details of the loan given by HDFC to the applicants for constructing houses under different schemes in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). As per the information received from the Housing Development Finance Corporation it has only two branches at Cochin and Tiruvananthapuram in the state of Kerala.

(c) The HDFC's contribution is solving housing problem in Kerala is by financing the acquisition, purchase and construction of residential housing of the middle, lower middle and economically weaker sections of the population.

(d) As on 31st March, '91 the two Branches in Kerala have sanctioned housing loans amounting to Rs. 105.88 crores out of which Rs. 68.82 crores have been disbursed for 16, 300 residential units.

[*Translation*]

Navodaya Vidyalayas in Badaun

6112. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Navodaya Vidyalaya in district Badaun; and

(b) if so, the location thereof and the time by which it is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). The scheme of Navodaya Vidyalayas envisages establishment of one Navodaya Vidyalaya in each district. Out of 62 districts of Uttar Pradesh, Navodaya Vidyalayas have been opened in 35 districts. Opening of Navodaya Vidyalayas depends on the proposal of the State/UT Government concerned which have to provide 30 acres of suitable land free of cost, sufficient building and other infrastructure for running the Vidyalayas initially for 2-3 years besides overall availability of resources and administrative consideration. No suitable proposal has been received for opening a Navodaya Vidyalaya in Badaun district of Uttar Pradesh.

[*English*]

Pre-Ph.D. Research Fellowship

6113. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government offer any Pre- Ph.D. fellowships to the students in Mathematics;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of fellowship offered by the National Board of Higher Mathematics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). the UGC provides Junior Research Fellowships for

doing research leading to M.Phil./Ph.D degree, in all subjects including mathematics, to those candidates who qualify in the National Educational Test(NET). These fellowships are paid through the University/ institute where the scholar registers himself for M.Phil./Ph.D. degree. In the National Test conducted in December, 1990 by UGC-CSIR,21 candidates qualified in mathematics.

(c) The information is being collected and will laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Tax on Pollution Offenders

*6114. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to levy tax on the pollution offenders; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Pollution offenders are dealt with under the provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Steps have been initiated to replace the present water cess levied on industries for water consumption by an effluent charge based on the quantity and quality of pollutants discharged.

[*English*]

Indian Forest Officers

6115. SHRI K.V.R. CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Forest Service (IFS) Officers at present;

(b) whether they are equal to other All India Services; and

(c) the Central deputation quota for IFS and percentage of posts filled up from the quota?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a). The number of Indian Forest Service Officers at present is 2246;

(b) The pay scales of the three all-India Services are not identical.

(c) The authorised cadre strength of the Indian Forest Service include 302 posts - which is the permissible maximum, for Central Deputation of IFS Officers. At present 144 IFS Officers are on Central Deputation.

Maintenance of Government Quarters

6116. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 1591 on August 5, 1991 and State:

(a) the details of the norms prescribed for the maintenance of Government quarters;

(b) the details of funds allocated during the last three years and in what way funds were utilised and how much remained unutilised; and